

REMARKS

Claims 1-8, 10, 11 and 13-16 are all the claims pending in the application.

I. Preliminary Matters

Further to the Amendment filed January 8, 2009, Applicant currently amends independent claims 1 and 11 to more clearly define the claimed invention. The current claim amendments assume entry of the January 8, 2009 Amendment.

II. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 9 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)¹ as being unpatentable over Fujita et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0043886; hereinafter “Fujita”) and Oohashi et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2003/0015932; hereinafter “Oohashi ‘932”). Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujita and Oohashi ‘932 in further view of Umeda et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,936,326; hereinafter “Umeda”). Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujita and Oohashi ‘932 in further view of Asao et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,281,612; hereinafter “Asao”). Claims 6 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujita and Oohashi ‘932 in further view of Oohashi et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0096958; hereinafter “Oohashi ‘958”). Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujita and Oohashi ‘932 in further view of Ohashi et

¹ Applicant notes that the Examiner incorrectly indicates this as a rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). Since the Examiner acknowledges that Fujita fails to teach or suggest all the claimed features recited in independent claim 1 (Office Action, page 5), and instead relies on Oohashi ‘932 to address the deficiencies of Fujita, the proper statute for the rejection is 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Applicant will treat the rejection as such.

al. (U.S. Patent No. 6, 018,205; hereinafter “Ohashi ‘205”). Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujita and Oohashi ‘932 in further view of Oohashi et al. (EP 1294076; hereinafter “Oohashi ‘076”). Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujita and Oohashi ‘932 in further view of Kusase et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,147,432; hereinafter “Kusase”). Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujita and Oohashi ‘932 in further view Yumiyama et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,587,619; hereinafter “Yumiyama”). For at least the following reasons, Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

In addition to Applicant’s arguments of the Amendment filed January 8, 2009, Applicant
further amends claim 1 to recite an ac generator for a vehicle comprising:

 a rotor having field windings and a plurality of fan blades
 which bend incoming air at a right angle,

 a stator including a stator core arranged opposed to the
 rotor and an insulating coated electrical conductor wound on the
 stator core, and

 a housing directly supporting a periphery of the stator core
 and protecting the electrical conductor, wherein the stator core is
 constituted by laminated core having a plurality of slots each
 extending to an axial direction, the electrical conductor is
 comprised of a slot-in portion located in the slots and a cross-over
 portion connecting each of the slot-in portions at the shaft end side
 of the stator, wherein the conductor is formed so that the slot-in
 portion located in the slots is molded to substantially rectangular in
 its cross-sectional profile having a longer side thereof in the radial
 direction of the generator and a shorter side thereof in the
 circumferential direction before it is entered in the slots and the
 cross-over portion is substantially circular in its cross-sectional
 profile, and at least longer side portion of the conductor of the slot-
 in portion located in the slots has an insulation coating of which
 thickness is smaller than that of insulation coating in the cross-over
 portion.

In an exemplary, non-limiting embodiment of the present invention, the claimed electrical conductor located in a slot-in portion is arranged so that a longer side thereof is in the radial direction of the generator and a shorter side thereof in the circumferential direction. The longer side thereof has an insulation coating of which thickness is smaller than that of insulation coating in the cross-over portion, and the longer side thereof is tightly contracted with the inner surface of the slot-in portion in a wide area. Because the laminated cores is directly supported to the housing, heat generated by armature windings can be easily dissipated in the radial direction to the housing through the periphery of the laminated core. This results in further enhancement of the output power and efficiency of the generator. It will be appreciated that the foregoing remarks relate to the invention in a general sense, the remarks are not necessarily limitative of any claims and are intended only to help the Examiner better understand aspects of the claims.

Neither Fujita, Oohashi '932, Umeda, Oohashi '958, Ohashi '205, Oohashi '076, Kusase nor Yumiyama, independently or in combination, teach or suggest all the claimed features as recited in claim 1.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is patentable over the applied references. Applicant further submits that claims 2-8, 10, 13 and 14 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency on claim 1.

Claim 11 is amended and recite one or more features analogous to those discussed above with respect to claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 11 is patentable at least for reasons analogous to those given above with respect to claim 1.

III. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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